

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Dai FUKUSHIMA et al.)
) Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**
Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**)
) Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**
Filed: **December 10, 2003**)
)
For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**)
MANUFACTURING METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. With the exception of the U.S. patent, copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents:

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-541649 - discloses a second polish of the wafer on the same platen and polishing pad removes portions of the barrier layer. A cleaning step may be optionally performed between the first and second polishes.
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-083787 – discloses a CMP method for polishing a wiring film and a barrier metal film sequentially.

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3. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2002-141312 – discloses a CMP method for polishing a wiring film and a barrier metal film sequentially.

An English-language abstract of each of documents 2 and 3 above is also enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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Dated: December 10, 2003

By: 

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Enclosures
RVB/FPD/sci

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04329.3194	Serial No.	Not Yet Assigned
Applicants	Dai FUKUSHIMA et al.		
Filing Date	December 10, 2003	Group:	Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,261,158 B1	07/17/01	HOLLAND et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
2002-541649	12/03/02	JAPAN			NO
2002-083787	03/22/02	JAPAN			ABSTRACT
2002-141312	05/17/02	JAPAN			ABSTRACT

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce